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July 30, 1987

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Mr. Frank Ciavattieri
New Bedford Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
JFK Federal Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02203

Superfund Records Center
WA: SITE: New Bedford
BREAK: 3.02
OTHER: 46377

Subject: Transmittal of Draft Report, New Bedford Harbor
Feasibility Study
Task 22 - Environmental Evaluation, Activity 22.4,
Selection of Any Additional Contaminants for
Inclusion in the Risk Assessment and Feasibility
Study

Dear Mr. Ciavattieri:

Enclosed is the draft report on E.C. Jordan Co.'s review of available organic compound data for New Bedford Harbor to evaluate if organic compounds other than PCBs need to be included in the risk assessment and feasibility studies.

The conclusions to this report are that sediments in the area south of the cove located on the western shore of the Acushnet River north of the Coggeshall Street Bridge, contain levels of PAH compounds which may present a significant risk to both human health and the environment. This area of the Acushnet River estuary is not the most heavily contaminated with PCBs and therefore these sediments may not be remediated, if remedial alternatives are based solely on the extent and level of PCB contamination. The risk assessment and feasibility study will need to address the potential risks from PAH contamination, should residual risks remain from PAH contamination after clean-up of the PCB contaminated sediments is completed.

Jordan's recommendation for addressing the issue of PAH contamination is to qualitatively discuss the PAH contamination in the risk assessment and state in the response objectives the need to evaluate each remedial alternative against decreasing PAH contamination in this area. In the public health evaluation of each alternative, the residual risks associated with PAH exposure would be calculated. Target concentrations for PAHs would not be developed.

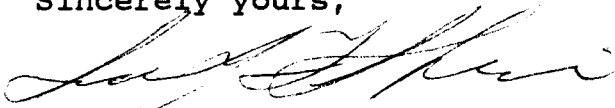
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This is the most efficient means of assessing the need for modifying or expanding remedial alternatives to address PAH compounds. Under this approach, the decision on the need to remediate the area of potential PAH risk would not be made until all areas needing remediation for PCBs are known and remedial alternatives are identified.

If, at that time, the areas of potential PAH risk do not need to be addressed for PCBs or metals, the remedial alternatives will be expanded to include the PAHs which may need addressing to reduce public health or environmental risks. These decisions will be made with the available data.

Should you have any questions or comments on the report or our recommendation, please call Allen Ikalainen or Beth Ryan (617-245-6606) directly.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Siegfried L. Stockinger'.

Siegfried L. Stockinger, P.E.
Ebasco Services Incorporated

cc: M. Amdurer
R. Fellman
A. Ikalainen